



City of Westminster

NEWS AND NOTES

Volume Three, Issue 3c



LETTER FROM THE MAYOR



Dear Residents:

NEW WEBSITE

The new City website launched on July 1st with a fresh look and exciting new features. Read more information below.

Beginning July 1, 2011, you will be able to pay your water/sewer bill over the Internet. To use the Online Bill Pay service, residents with water/sewer billing accounts can register for an online bill pay account through a secure website. After registering, users can view current water/sewer billing information and make a one-time payment via Visa, MasterCard or Discover credit cards. As part of a security feature, credit card information is **NOT** saved, so users will be required to enter their credit card information for each payment. Instructions to use the Online Bill Pay Service can be found on the next page.

WESTMINSTER FALLFEST 2011

Westminster is busy at work preparing for Fallfest 2011 from Thursday, September 22 to Sunday, September 25. This year, Fallfest will support the services of Access Carroll, Boys and Girls Club of Westminster, Carroll County Youth Services Bureau and the Carroll Hospice.

With free parking, free admission, amusement rides, food court, games, Kid's Court and scarecrow making all four days, Fallfest kicks off the festivities with the Road Mile presented by Fit4women to benefit the Stacey Davis Breast Cancer Fund beginning at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Fallfest parade. The parade route will proceed down Pennsylvania Avenue to Main Street to Longwell Avenue, terminating at the Westminster Armory where the carnival rides and food court will be open and Carroll's Idol Variety Show will perform.

On Friday evening, the Wylde Fire Band will play on the food court stage and the Buffalo Wild Wings Wing eating contest will take place at 8:00 p.m. Of course, MIDNIGHT MADNESS begins at 6:00 p.m. and you can shop at your favorite downtown stores until midnight. Some stores have been known to offer specials and refreshments for the shoppers.

On Saturday, the craft, commercial and non-profit vendors set up on the Longwell parking lot and entertainment is provided by Music with Monte, WTTR's Karaoke Contest and Whitehouse Effect. The vendors will be open on Sunday along with entertainment by Jim Cabral.

Fallfest is Carroll County's largest community charity event and the Park Place Sponsors include the City of Westminster, New Windsor State Bank, Comcast, the Baltimore Sun, Carroll County Times, Quantum, Carroll County Chamber of Commerce, Patch, Carroll Magazine, WTTR, Team Utz Real Estate and Champions of Change. Please visit these sponsor booths and thank them for their support of this charity event. A total of \$36,000 was donated to charities in 2010.

SAVE THE DATE!

Planning has already begun for the Miracle on Main Street electronic parade to be held on Saturday, November 25, 2011. In addition to the Parade, we will have the tree lighting, rides, and Santa's Treat. Plan to attend these festivities to celebrate the Holiday season.

Sincerely,~

Mayor Utz

Mayor's Message Continued

Instructions for Online Bill Pay:

1. Go to the City homepage at www.westminstermd.gov.
2. Under "Quicklinks" menu, choose ONLINE BILL PAY SERVICES.
3. Choose which type of bill you'd like to pay.
4. Click NEW USERS to open a new online bill pay account.
5. Enter required account set-up information.
6. Once you register for an online user ID, enter your billing account information.
7. If you only have one account, choose CLICK HERE TO ACCESS YOUR ACCOUNTS; or if you have multiple accounts, enter them as necessary.
8. Follow steps on the following pages to make your payment online.

CLIENT SERVICES REQUEST SYSTEM

In addition to this new payment service, Westminster City residents are still able to report maintenance issues to City officials via the Client Services Request System on the City's website.

Citizens can complete the simple request for service form to report things like a code violation, darkened streetlight or a pothole in need of repair at any time. Other examples of problems which could be reported might include signage problems, street issues, water and sewer line problems, etc. For those residents who would like to receive a follow-up status report, giving an email address will ensure they receive updates on the resolution of the problem.

Citizens are encouraged to utilize the web request system in order to streamline the repair process. Please visit our website and click on the Client Services Request Form under "Online Services" and fill in the blanks. You can be assured your alertness will be addressed and appreciated. For citizens without Internet access, these service requests can be reported via phone by calling the Information Desk at 410-848-9000.

From the Code Enforcement Office

Summer is still going strong! Remember to keep your property maintained by keeping all grass/weeds under 6" in height. Also, remember that all exterior property areas must be free of rubbish and garbage accumulation. If you have a pool, keep it clean and properly maintained to deter insect harborage.

Help keep our city beautiful!

100th Anniversary Celebration



A Submission from our friends at the Carroll County Times newspaper:

In celebration of our 100th Anniversary we will be hosting an Open House on Saturday, October 8th from 10am to 2pm at the Carroll County Times, located at 201 Railroad Avenue. **Free admission, tours, games, food and entertainment!** Two 100th anniversary displays will also be available to the public. Currently there is a display in the storefront of the original "Times" building. From late August through September there will be a display at the Historical Society.

Rain date is Sunday, October 9 from 12pm to 3pm.

Downtown Westminster Farmer's Market

Located on the Conaway Parking Lot at the corner of Railroad Avenue (MD27) and Emerald Hill Lane, the Downtown Westminster Farmers Market is the oldest "Producer Only" open air market operating in Carroll County. Vendor offerings typically include: fresh vegetables of all kinds, fruits, eggs, honey, salsa, homemade baked goods, herb & vegetable plants, annuals & perennials, cut flowers, wool, hand-made soap products, organically-raised meats and certified organic produce.

The farmers market is open from 8am until noon on Saturdays, from the last Saturday in May until the Saturday before Thanksgiving in November. It is held rain or shine. The market site is handicap accessible, with ample free parking.

To find out what is happening at the Downtown Westminster Farmers Market, or its sister market at the Westminster Antique Mall on Hahn Road, visit www.westminsterfarmfresh.com.

Carroll Arts Center Events

Sunday, September 18, 3pm: National Players to perform "The Taming of the Shrew" by William Shakespeare. "Shrew" is known as one of the best-loved 'battle of the sexes' and the National Players have retro-fitted the comedy with a Wild West flare! Cowboy boots, whips, and lassos give a biting punch to this classic tale. Sparring lovers Kate and Petruchio duke it out on the Western frontier. Will they ride off into the sunset or die tryin'? The verbal duel never stops during this marvelously updated adaptation of Shakespeare's masterpiece.

The National Players, America's longest running classical touring company, has now reached its 63rd consecutive season of touring. They have earned a distinctive place in American theatre and maintain a strong commitment to the formation of emerging theatrical talent and new audiences. They continually celebrate the experience of theatergoing by presenting the world's greatest dramatic literature performed by a professional repertory company.

Tickets for "The Taming of the Shrew" are \$20 for Adults and \$15 for CCAC Members, Students & Seniors.

Saturday, September 24, 8pm: America's recently crowned "#1 Celtic Band," The Rogues, will return to the stage of the Carroll Arts Center for a live concert. Over the past 17 years, the performances of this Celtic Rock group have electrified audiences on two continents. They have added to their ever-growing family of fans -- affectionately known as the Rogue Army -- at music festivals, theaters, Highland Games, renaissance festivals, clubs, pubs, and corporate events -- anywhere that presents top-quality, high-energy music. Their hard won road successes have established them as artists with bona fide international acclaim.

Renowned for their musical skill, quick wit, and engaging stage show, the Rogues have mastered the art of creating an immediate connection with their audiences. The Rogues are fast becoming a household name with music lovers across the U.S. and Canada, loved by young and old of all backgrounds. In December of 2009 the ROGUES defeated nearly 65 other bands from all over the world to win the 1st Battle of the Celtic Bands.

Tickets for the concert are \$22 for adults and \$20 for CCAC Members, Students & Seniors.

Saturday, October 15, 7:30pm: The Carroll Arts Center is pleased to present Molasses Creek, a high-energy acoustic group from Ocracoke Island, NC. Molasses Creek's humble beginning arose amidst exotic fig trees and rich tidewater marshes of isolated Ocracoke Island. The bluegrass group continues to win loyal followings with a captivating stage presence, elegant harmonies, blazing instrumentals and a quirky sense of humor. Award winners from Garrison Keillor's "Prairie Home Companion," Molasses Creek has recorded 11 albums and its members have been featured in Warner Brothers' movie "Nights in Rodanthe," and they have performed at Presidential receptions! Molasses Creek's roster includes Gary Mitchell on guitar and vocals, Fiddler Dave Tweedie on fiddle and vocals, Lou Castro playing dobro, bass and vocals, Marcy Brenner on mandolin, bass and vocals and Gerald Hampton rounds on the group on mandolin and bass.

Tickets for the concert will be \$15 for Adults and \$13 for CCAC Members, Students & Seniors.



9th Annual Members Show

August 11—October 1: The Carroll County Arts Council will be hosting the 9th annual Members Art Exhibit. Nearly 140 entries are expected for the exhibition that has now become an annual tradition and a community favorite. The works will be on view in the Tevis Gallery and Community Gallery and second floor halls.

This show will feature a wide range of styles and mediums including painting, drawing, photography, sculpture, and fine crafts. Most works are for sale. There will be a selection of matted prints for sale as well. Artistic Excellence awards will be presented at the opening reception to those with the highest combined scores as evaluated by the two judges. Judges for the 2011 Members Show are Lauren Beacham, photographer, Frederick, MD and John Brandon Sills, painter, Phoenix, MD.

An opening reception, hosted by the Carroll County Artists Guild will be held on Thursday, August 11 from 5:30 – 7:30 pm. It is free and open to the public. The exhibit is generously sponsored by Ruth Gray & Lloyd Helt.

The Carroll Arts Center is located at 91 West Main Street in Westminster and is open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday from 10 am to 4 pm, Thursday from 10 am to 8 pm and Saturday 10 am to 4 pm. For more information, call 410/848-7272 or visit www.CarrollCountyArtsCouncil.org.

Carroll Arts Center Gallery

October 6—November 16: The Tevis Gallery at the Carroll Arts Center will feature and exhibit entitled "Full Figure", free and open to the public.

Figures. We all have them. They come in different sizes and shapes, ages, colors and attitudes but they are all full of life, breath, flesh and bones. "Full Figure" honors the human form in all its presence: moving, resting, thinking, working, posing. From the ancients until now, artists have been fascinated with creating likenesses of humans. Athletic poses, historic figures, balletic form, stylish and otherwise created in realism, abstract, painted, sculpted and mixed media will offer the viewer a glimpse of "us" and the glory of our "full figures."

One of the highlights will be a portrait of Anna Ella Carroll, after whose family, Carroll County was named. This painting reveals a tour, not only through Civil War history, but a history of the artistic development of the human form as well.

Artists include: Walter Bartman, Braddock Heights, MD; Nick Wenderoth, Westminster, MD; Cathy Sawdey, Ellicott City, MD; Laura Era, Cambridge, MD; Sara Knox, Hagerstown, MD and more. A meet the artists' reception will be held on Thursday October 16 from 5:30-7:30 pm. Susan Williamson, Visual Arts Coordinator, will present a free gallery talk on this exhibit on Thursday October 20 at noon and 7 pm.

The Carroll Arts Center is located at 91 W. Main Street in Westminster, MD. Gallery hours are: Monday through Saturday, 10 am to 4 pm and Thursdays, 10 am to 8 pm. The gallery is open during special events in the theatre. Please check our web site www.carrollcountyartscouncil.org for more information.

Recreation and Parks Department Events

IMA World Health 5K Run for Health

The 2nd annual IMA World Health 5K Run for Health will be held on **Saturday, October 8, 2011 at 9:00 a.m.** at the Westminster Family Fitness Center, 11 Longwell Avenue. The cost to participate is a \$25 donation if registered by September 23. September 24-October 8 the cost will be a \$30 donation. Make checks payable to IMA World Health or sign up online at www.ima5k.org. The top 3 male and female finishes will receive prizes. Tee shirts will be available for all that sign up by September 23. Ten percent of the proceeds will benefit the Westminster Family Fitness Center and the remaining proceeds will support IMA's International Health Program in countries such as Haiti, South Sudan, DR Congo, Tanzania and others. For more information please call Chris Glass at 1-877-241-7952 or e-mail him at chrisglass@imaworldheath.org.

Halloween Parade

The annual Halloween parade in Historic Downtown Westminster on **October 25th**. Registration begins at **6pm** on Monroe St. near Dutterer's Park. The parade begins at **7pm** via Pennsylvania Avenue to Main Street and ending on Longwell Avenue. This event is coordinated by the American Legion Post #31. Call 410-857-7953 for more information.

Halloween Bench Press

The Westminster Family Fitness Center (11 Longwell Ave.) will sponsor their Annual Halloween Bench Press on **Saturday October 29th at 11am**. The cost to register is \$50. Registration forms can be returned to The Family Fitness Center or to GNC in Cranberry Square Shopping Center. Registration deadline for the regular fee is October 10th. Registration forms submitted after October 10 must pay \$20 additional. Those entering more than one division will be charged \$15 additional on top of the registration fees. Call 410-751-5501 for more details.

Veterans Day Ceremony

This remembrance service will be held on **Friday, November 11th at 4pm** at the Westminster Armory (11 Longwell Ave.) For more information call the American Legion Post #31, 410-857-7953 or 410-876-0746.

Harvest Fun Run

The fun run is held at Wakefield Valley Community Trail (Tahoma Farm Rd) on **November 12th**. There will be a 200 yard dash for children ages 6 and under starting at **9 am**. The one mile fun run starts at **9:15 am** for ages 7 and up. The timed 5K will begin at **9:30 am**. A \$15 registration fee is requested (\$5 discount when registering two or more participants). *Proceeds Benefit the Carroll Food Sunday and the Westminster Family Fitness Center Group Fitness Program.*



Westminster Fallfest Parade

September 22nd at 7pm. The parade will start at Dutterer Family Park on Monroe Street to Pennsylvania Avenue and will continue down Main Street ending on Longwell Avenue. Parade participants must register in advance! Call 410-857-9072 for more information.

Westminster Fallfest

September 22nd-25th, this annual event benefits Access Carroll, Carroll County Youth Services Bureau, the Carroll Hospice and the Boys and Girls Club of Westminster. Enjoy carnival rides, live entertainment, and great food. On Saturday and Sunday enjoy over 100 crafters and commercial vendors gathered for your shopping pleasure. **NO PETS PLEASE**. Visit www.westminsterfallfest.com for more information.

Westminster Fallfest Midnight Madness

Held **September 23rd from 6pm to Midnight**. Experience the sights, scents, and sounds of an autumn evening in downtown Historic Westminster. A variety of businesses will be open for your shopping pleasure. Live entertainment, antique cars, and much more will be available. Parking is **FREE**. **NO PETS PLEASE!**

Upcoming Date Nights

The Mother-Son Date Night: **OCTOBER 5**
"Medieval"

Daddy-Daughter Date Night: **OCTOBER 12**
"Movie Night"

Events held at Martin's Westminster from 6:30-9pm

\$60 per couple, kids must be K-8th.

A couple is considered one adult and one child.

Sorry, no exceptions.

Cost includes dinner, dancing, games, door prizes, a 5x7 photo of the couple, parting gifts and much more!

All tickets must be prepaid and are non-refundable.

Tickets are on sale now by calling 410-857-9072 with a credit card, or feel free to stop by the recreation office to purchase. You can also mail in an order form, available on our website, and send it to us along with your check or money order. Get yours now, don't wait until they are sold out!

Come make a memory with us!